

10 June 1972

Moosier Archives was originally a periodic listing of the Diplomacy archives of Walter Buchanan, R.R. 3, Lebanon, Indiana 46052, telephone (317) 482-2824; Archives Director, PDC, and V-P/Treas, International Diplomacy Association. It is now primarily a Diplomacy genuine devoted to articles on good play, demonstration games such as The Grudge Game (1971BC) now in progress, ratings systems and game news. Information from the archives is vital for all this and is available to the public as well. Although the archives is virtually complete in at least xerox form, missing undamaged originals are solicited, either for purchase or a loan to permit xeroxing. (See the last archives listing in Moosier Archives #53 for mines needed.) Many original spares are now available from the archives; more are solicited so as to make them available to others. A subscription to Moosier Archives is 15/\$2.00 or 7/\$1.00; back issues are available for 15¢ apiece (20% discount for all available). Ask for #75 to get a list of all articles through #75. This is Kingdom Press publication #6.



THE GRUDGE GAME (1971BC)
Winter 1905

BIRSAN GLITS IN PREPARATION FOR FINAL PUSH

AUSTRIA: F Con R Aeg.
(Lakofka)

FRANCE: Builds F Bre, A Par, F Mar.
(Birsan)

GERMANY: A Vie R Boh. Removes F Den.
(Key)

ITALY: A Ven refuses to retreat /annihilated/. Builds F Rom.
(Walker)

RUSSIA: A Swe R Fin. Removes F Arm.
(Smythe)

TURKEY: Removes A Ank.
(Bayerlein)

1ST STBY (Hans): Moves for all Great Powers not received.

2ND STBY (Eller): Moves for all Great Powers not received.

Spring 1906 Orders are due not later than noon (9:00 A.M. for phone calls) on Saturday, 24 June 1972.

POSITIONS BEFORE SPRING 1906

AUSTRIA: A Vie, A Tri, A Bud, A Bul, F Aeg

FRANCE: F Edi, F Nth, F Swe, F Eng, F Bre, A Par, A Bel, A Ruh, A Mun, A Ber,
F Mar, A Pie, A Ven, F Nap

GERMANY: A Boh, A Cal

ITALY: F Tyr, F Rom, A Apr, F Gre, A Con

RUSSIA: F Nwg, F Nwy, A Fin, A Pru, A Sil, A Sev

TURKEY: F Bla

THE ULTIMATE REGRUDGING: John Smythe—I am interested in knowing if the other players wish to continue a give-away game which Jeff Key, Gene Presnits and Red Walker have done their best to ruin. Furthermore, I had intended to play Diplomacy, not "give away." And so if anyone wishes to reimburse me for my wasted time and money, I would appreciate it. I don't wish to waste any more time or any more money on this nonsense or farce.

BEGRUDGINGS (1971BG)
Fall 1905

ROME (26 January 1905): Her Holiness Pope Joan III today gave birth to a strapping 10-pound baby boy, whom She promptly named Cesare Rodrigo Innocente Borgia. The odd thing about the child is that he does not look the least bit like Leo LaCupcake. Almost immediately, Her Holiness issued a Decretal annulling Her marriage to Leo on grounds of consanguinity, and in a short interview with the press, revealed that the father of Prince Cesare was actually none other than Tsar Ivan VII of Russia Himself. Later in the afternoon, Her Holiness relaxed by feeding the Papal Counsellors who advised the LaCupcake marriage, one by one, to Her pet piranha. The Duke of Milan and the Marquess of Umbria, who made the actual suggestion initially, were staked out for the delectation of Her Holiness's collection of red Brazilian soldier ants.

ROME (15 February 1905): The Senate of the Empire today declared war against Austria. No explanation was offered, although Prime Minister Riforma Vincitore made some remarks to the press concerning "national honor."

RAVENNA (1 June 1905): Her Holiness the Pope arrived here today after a long absence, bringing with Her Her Son and heir, Prince Cesare. The Prince, who will be 6 months old on the 26th, was created a Cardinal in an impressive ceremony held shortly after Pope Joan's arrival. In a press interview, Her Holiness responded heatedly to a suggestion that there was something irregular in this procedure. "Of course not! Our son was made a priest shortly after he was born, and there can be no question that he has kept steadfastly to his vows of chastity. Two months ago, We raised him to the rank of Bishop, which it is certainly within Our prerogative, and last month We made him an Archbishop. Now, many Archbishops are made Cardinals after only a short time in office, so there can be no problem there. Nor do We find the argument that he does not know Latin very persuasive--in fact, Cardinal Borgia knows Latin as well as he knows any language. Besides," added Her Holiness, Her lower lip sticking out at least two inches, "since We are the Pope, We can make anybody a Cardinal We choose."

RAVENNA (1 July 1905): The Annual Midyear Orgy was a smashing success here. Pope Joan III led the festivities, of course, holding private audiences with selected members of the press. In a brief press conference, Her Holiness announced, "The infamous Leo LaCupcake is now Our prisoner. He is at present imprisoned in the Castel Sant'Angelo, where he is undergoing torture."

"To make him reveal secrets?" asked Reginald Peckworthy of The Times.

"No," answered the Pope. "Just on general principles."

"Can I help?" breathed John-John barShara of the Worshipful Arab 'Zine of Incredible Raunchiness.

"No, my friend. You'll find the members of the Holy Office of the Inquisition just your type, John-John."

BACK FORTY (5 October 1905): Queen Suzanne today has been in a rage. Some people, in fact, whispered (not too loudly) that She was "having another one of her 'fits.'" Various members of the press approached her with trepidation as She paced up and down the length of the abandoned milking parlor which served as Her throne room. She was muttering to Herself, and great billows of smoke emerged from Her favorite corncob pipe. It was clear to all present that She was not smoking the pipe of peace. Cautiously, Rodly Talker of the Newhere Daily Fortification asked the Queen, "Are you mad at someone?" Glaring at him, the Queen replied, "I certainly am--that so-called Pope Joan hasn't even had the decency to thank Us for all those beautiful clothes We made her. Not one word! We are considering declaring war on her for that. She has some nerve! We'll send...." The newsmen slipped out quietly.

ANGOLA, INDIANA (VIA FREMONT) (4 July 1905): Pope Joan in a nationally telecast speech from Lt. General Louis B. Henshey Hall today stated that rumors of her death were quite unsubstantiated. A minor riot was quelled by the local National Guard unit after Pope Joan invited students of this tokenly co-ed college to check for themselves whether she was a ghost. Attired in her black Papal mini-dress with merging neckline and neckline, the Papacy's prettiest prelate announced that she would be returning to Rome shortly after the conclusion of her American tour funded by her successful lawsuit of Al Capp who had portrayed her as Jeanie Phoebe in his comic strip. She dismissed rumors of a Pope Leo I as "not deserving of comment."

WASHINGTON, D.C. (VIA FREMONT) (11 July 1905): President Coolidge lived up to his nickname of "Silent Cal" by refusing to discuss the contents of his hours-long private conference with her Holiness, Pope Joan. The United States government is rumored to be considering intervention in the imperialistic wars brought on by Napoleon the Sixth, although this might cause secession of Quebec shortly after her admission to the Union with the rest of Canada.

VIENNA (29 December 1905): Pope Leo I of Austria rode triumphantly into his capital city. "I know you all love me," he tittered to the raving throngs in the city streets. The vicious Huns were sent packing by Pope Leo's forces with such a vengeance that many thought the Kaiser's army would disband instead of even attempting to regroup. An aid rushed up to the Pope and conveyed the news of the loss of Constantinople and Greece. "What!?" he shrieked as he slew the messenger with one blow of his sword! "That hag of bones dares bring herself back to life?! I shall have the heart of the foul creature, Pope Joan. She shall not match her power to mine and live, in this world, the underworld, or even the next world!" he vowed.

His black cape sank into inky depths of darkness. His face grew twisted and gnarled as the ages of eras past swept across his face. Doom cast its light from his burning eyes and venom trickled from his lips. His aid rushed to him to calm him and instead they went to their everlasting fate. "You rabble, you leechers, you dare console me!!" he cried as he reeked his anger upon them. The mild, timid fop had become transformed into a thing deadly and proud, noble and ghostly, powerful and sacred.

HISTRITZ (31 December 1905, Midnight):

And the Moon waxed yellow; then white; then black;
The goblin, the witch, and the crow turned back
To see the castle blaze with lights,
As it had done on dismal nights
When the sound of forlorn whips did crack
As the Count of Doom displayed his knack.

Soon the inhabitants of Histriz were gone and in their place creatures slimy and wretched, black and crafty, ugly and fierce, came to the banner of the Lord of Bestritz. Pope Leo cast off his white vestments and donned those of pure red and black. He raised himself above the host and led them on into the night's evil blackness. "Beware, Pope Joan—flee now, for if I catch you, torment shall be the most pleasant name for your anguish."

INTO THE ARCHIVES NO. 35

One of the most creative minds in the hobby, Rick Brooks, is back with a thought-provoking little gem on Diplomacy's equivalent to the Fool's Mate in chess. Although none of these examples have ever been pulled off in postal play, Rick tried hard in Diplophobia recently when he won as Austria with 28 supply centers!

DIPLOMACY AS I SEE IT: THE FOOL'S MATE IN DIPLOMACY?

by Rick Brooks

In chess, the Fool's Mate is the shortest possible game. Basically, white checkmates black (sounds like an inner city melodrama) in two moves. So the thought occurred to me while driving into Angola to preside as glorious leader over the executive meeting of Chapter 18 of the East Paterson Diplomacy Club (also known as the Tri-State College Wargaming Association and Card-Playing Group) to derive the shortest possible Diplomacy game.

Obviously, there are seven basic cases to consider. With differing victory criteria, these go up to 21. Since the assumption is made that the other countries make the worst possible moves, the rest of the board can be considered empty as far as armies are concerned. This is the limiting case as other units could clog up certain areas. However, convoys by other nations can be important. Russia could move A Moscow to St. Petersburg in the spring and A St. Petersburg to Norway in the fall and build A St. Pete in the winter. Then EF North Sea (C) RA Norway to Yorkshire and RA St. Petersburg to Norway in the spring followed by RA Yorkshire to Liverpool and EF North Sea (C) RA Norway to Edinburgh in the fall gains two more centers.

But would this outstrip moving across an empty board? A country can only build up so fast anyway. Mathematically, Russia can only build 4 units a year which will put her over 18 by Winter 1904. The rest mathematically can be up to 18 by Winter 1905. These are theoretical minimums and may not be possible, but they give us a limit. An 18-unit game cannot last less than 4 years except in the case of a draw.

Now, how closely can we approach this? Since Germany has picked up 3 centers in the first year in many games, it can't be too difficult. France has done the same when Germany turns his attention elsewhere.

In a trial run-through with Russia, 8 supply centers were held after 1901 moves while 15 centers were held after 1902 moves. In the latter, 5 units held on the fall move and the army built in Moscow could not position to take a new center in 1902. So the builds are the bottleneck here.

But there is still one more factor to consider. Russia can "Fool's Mate" with room to spare in 4 game years. But the rest cannot exceed 18 in 5 game years. A failure to take 3 centers the first year would delay the country an extra year. France, Germany, and Austria

Italy can move into Austria with her armies while taking Tunis or Greece by sea.

England can't get 3 more centers by Fall 1901 since she is isolated by sea and must convey her army out. Or more correctly, England cannot get 3 centers by herself. Spring moves of EA Liverpool to Wales, RF London to North Sea, RF Edinburgh to Norwegian Sea, and RF Brest to English Channel can mean three centers in the fall.

So the shortest possible game is 4 years for Russia and 5 for the rest, excluding draws. It is rather fascinating that the only game where you can write orders for the other players' countries, the Game of Chess, turned out to be longer than any other game. But "Fool's Mate" in variants is another question.

I do not care for the new rulebook's victory criterion based on supply centers. As has been pointed out, a country could have 18 or more centers, but have been unable to build up due to pressure on his home centers. This is especially true of Austria, who could eventually lose after having 18 centers. But if the victory criterion of the new rulebook is used, the mathematical limitation is doubling each year assuming that every unit holds a center in the fall. As has been shown, this is possible the first year. No country can be up to 18 supply centers in two years. But to have 18 supply centers in 3 years, Russia only needs to gain 10 centers in two more years after doubling to 8 the first year. Child's play. The other countries need to get 12 centers in two more years after doubling to 6 the first year. This can be done fairly easily as it only calls for the 6 units to gain a new center every fall without even considering the 3 new units built in 1902. So 3 years is the shortest possible game under the new rulebook, excluding draws.

Where the victory criteria is simply a majority of units on the board, matters are more complicated. Russia can gain 4 centers in 1901, only 3 of them can be enemy build centers (assuming RF Sevastopol to Armenia, RA Moscow to Sevastopol, RA Warsaw to Galicia (Silesia), and TF Ankara to Black Sea, then RF Armenia to Ankara, TF Black Sea (C) RA Sevastopol to Constantinople, and RA Galicia to Budapest or Vienna (Munich or Berlin)), as RF St. Petersburg (as) can only reach Sweden in 1901. By Winter 1902, Russia is up to 12 and has easily taken a minimum of 4 more build centers to have a majority of units.

Any other country cannot do better than 9 units to 10 by 1902, assuming that 3 build centers are taken in 1901 and 6 more in 1902. Getting two more build centers in 1903 is easy. A run-through with England gave the following result: 1900: 3-19, 1901: 5-19, 1902: 8-13, 1903: 11-5 (in terms of units). So without much effort, any country can possibly be in majority by 1903.

It can be seen that failure to build could cut the margin below 9 units to 10 in 1902. England can take Brest, Germany can take Paris and Warsaw, Austria can take Venice and Rome, and Turkey, Sevastopol. If the other three fail to build, England or Turkey are the worst off. Add failure to retreat and the analysis becomes hopeless. On a run-through, I got England 8-8 by 1902 without retreating any units off the board. It is my guess that any country can make it by 1902, but it will take more space and time than I have to prove it.

Draws complicate the picture. A six-way alliance against Austria or France can win in 1901. All other countries have at least one center (Russia has two) that no other country

can reach in 1901. So any other combination of alliances cannot win before 1902. However, a 7-way alliance can win by Winter 1900. (Personally, I'm surprised that no one has tried it yet.) So a "Fool's Mate" leads to a foolish result.

<u>18 Units</u>	<u>1900</u>	<u>1901</u>	<u>1902</u>	<u>1903</u>	<u>1904</u>	<u>1905</u>
Russia	4	8	12	16	20	
Any other	3	6	9	12	15	18
<u>18 Centers</u>						
Russia	4	8	16	32		
Any other	3	6	12	24		
<u>Maximum units*</u>						
Russia	4	8	12			
Rest	18	15	10			
Any other	3	6	9	12		
Rest	19	16	10			

*excluding missed births and retirements off the board

INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION

The final results of the International Diplomacy Association's (formerly known colloquially as "NewOrg" or "DipOrg" until this name was selected by a vote of the members) initial interim election are now in and the interim officers elected are:

PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT/TREASURER
EDITOR
ATLANTIC REGIONAL SECRETARY
CENTRAL REGIONAL SECRETARY
PACIFIC REGIONAL SECRETARY
AT LARGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Larry Peery
Walter Buchanan
John Boyer
Steve Nozik
Leonard Lakofka
John Riehl
Rod Walker and Elliot Lipson

The members also voted to name the organization newsletter, DIPLOMACY REVIEW, and I have just heard from the editor, John Boyer, that the first issue will probably be out around June 14. This issue will give the exact vote totals for the above election as well as news about IDA's future plans. Many committees are being set up (John Boyer and I will serve as Co-Chairmen of the Players Handbook Committee) and active member participation is urged. I'm sure there are more than enough jobs to go around, as many projects were approved by the members in the election. If even half of these projects are successful, I am sure that the IDA will serve as the catalyst for a big growth in our beloved hobby of postal Diplomacy.

Incidentally, the last I heard, the dues-paying membership total was over 80. We are shooting for a short-range goal of 100 by the DIPCON in July. All members (and everyone else for that matter!) are urged to attend the DIPCON in Chicago as most of the interim officers will be there. The hosts of the DIPCON have been kind enough to provide meeting space for the IDA and these meetings will be utilized to the utmost in planning for the future of the organization and what it can do for the hobby.

For those of you out there who haven't joined the IDA yet, I urge you to do so. Dues are still \$1.00 and since I am now the interim Treasurer, I suppose they should be sent to me, although I am sure any of the above officers would be glad to enroll you. Also, for any of you that would like more information before you join, I still have a few copies of the initial mailing that was sent out in February. Democracy is a slow process, isn't it? Anyway, this mailing included a copy of the proposed interim constitution (most of which was approved by the charter members; incidentally, Bob Johnson deserves a lot of credit for writing and chairing the committee that produced this document) as well as proposed objectives of the organization. I will be happy to send you a copy free as long as they last.

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